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DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings were received on 02/18/2010. These drawings are accepted.

Status of Claims

Applicant's cancellation of claims 1, 2, 4, and 7 -13 in the reply filed on 02/18/2010 is acknowledged.

Applicant's amendment of claims 1, 5, and 6 in the reply filed on 02/18/2010 is acknowledged. Claims 2, 5, and 6 are under consideration in this Office Action.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2, 5, and 6 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

In re Claim 5, Karasawa discloses all limitations of claim 5 except for "...a measurement in a pad pitch direction of the shape compatible with only connection with the probe is SMALLER than a measurement in a pad pitch direction of the shape compatible with only assembly". Moreover, Karasawa teaches that a measurement (between 11A and 12A) in a pad pitch direction of the shape compatible with only connection with the probe is LARGER than a measurement (between 11 and 12) in a pad pitch direction of the shape compatible with only assembly (Drawing 1). The claimed device differs from prior art devices on this point and there is no evidence it would have been obvious to make this change.

In re Claim 6, Karasawa discloses all limitations of claim 6 except for that "...the dual use pads and the probing test pads are arranged alternately ..." The claimed device differs from prior art devices on this point and there is no evidence it would have been obvious to make this change.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to NIKOLAY YUSHIN whose telephone number is (571)270-7885. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Davienne Monbleau can be reached on 571-272-1945. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/NIKOLAY YUSHIN/
Examiner, Art Unit 2893

/Thomas L Dickey/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2826

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